

REMARKS

This Amendment is responsive to the final Office Action mailed on September 22, 2004. The Examiner's comments have been carefully considered.

Claim 1 has been rejected as being obvious on the basis of the primary patent to Bledowski in view of or when combined with the secondary patent to Shozo et al., for reasons set forth in paragraph 3, bridging pages 2 and 3, of the Office Action. It is noted, however, that claims 2-41 and 59-122 have been allowed.

The rejection of claim 1 is believed to be identical to the rejection set forth in the earlier Office Action mailed on March 19, 2004. This rejection was addressed in the Amendment mailed on June 21, 2004. And, still, the rejection has been repeated virtually verbatim, without any indication as to why the arguments for patentability that were presented previously have been given no weight or consideration.

It is believed that claim 1 as previously of record clearly and patentably distinguished the lighting system over the combination of the applied references for the reasons aforementioned in the response of June 21, 2004. However, in order to even further clarify the invention and to more clearly and patentably distinguish over the applied art, claim 1 has again been amended to require that the diodes are each individually oriented to emit a light beam that is directly directed to a predetermined illumination area. This, it is respectfully submitted, makes it very clear that the system does not rely on any optics, reflectors, or the like, but that each individual LED is oriented to be focused on the common focal point or illumination area, so that the beams naturally converge on that area, without the need or reliance upon additional optical components

or elements.

In view of the foregoing, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider amended claim 1 and allow this claim, together with the remaining claims of record that have already been allowed.

It is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance. Early allowance and issuance is, accordingly, respectfully solicited.

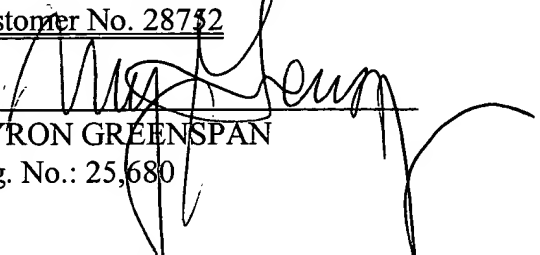
Applicant hereby petitions that any and all extensions of time of the term necessary to render this response timely be granted. COSTS FOR SUCH EXTENSION(S) AND/OR ANY OTHER FEE DUE WITH THIS FEE DUE WITH THIS PAPER THAT ARE NOT FULLY COVERED BY AN ENCLOSED CHECK MAY BE CHARGED TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT #10-0100.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Certificate of Deposit by Mail

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being filed by depositing same in an envelope stamped first-class mail, addressed to the Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, in a duly marked U.S. Postal Service drop box, with appropriate postage, on the following date:

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December 22, 2004

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